

TUE OCT 25 1988

## BART TROUBLES

- An FBI probe of graft and corruption among top BART managers, which so far has resulted in the arrests of three maintenance managers — Arnold Flores, Hilario Gomez and Helder Simas — on charges they demanded bribes and kickbacks from contractors.
- Suspension of the agency's real-estate manager, Michael M. Sharpe, after a report by The Tribune revealed that he was convicted of defrauding the City of Hartford, Conn., a month before being hired by BART. Sharpe is also the subject of an FBI probe.
- The imminent threat of a strike last month by 1,200 mechanics, janitors and clerical workers, who accused Bernard of trying to force a walkout by failing to compromise on non-wage issues. A last-minute settlement was reached just four hours before a planned walkout.
- The Sept. 29 death of Richard Demko, second-in-command at the agency, who Bernard described as a "tower of strength."
- Production troubles that have sidelined several of BART's new French-built rail cars.
- Ongoing snafus, cost overruns and delays in an overhaul of BART's computerized train-control system, which is needed for the agency to run more trains. The project, whose cost is now approaching \$40 million, is already nearly three years and \$20 million over budget.